

charge is intended to provide a 0.5 cents/kilowatt hour or 8% savings (whichever is greater) from a customer's existing rates. This charge will be set by the Illinois Commerce Commission at a later date.

- (3) The quality of delivery of power and energy obtained from an alternative supplier approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission will be the same as the quality of delivery for the power and energy supplied by Illinois Power.
- (4) The delivery of power and energy will continue to be regulated by the Illinois Commerce Commission and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

## Your Rights

The law gives you many rights and protections.

- (1) If your company is eligible to choose its electric supplier, you may request that Illinois Power share or withhold your name and address from the lists of eligible customers that Illinois Power must make available to alternative suppliers and others who may request this information. Please use the form included in this brochure.
- (2) Alternative suppliers must obtain your written authorization before switching your service.
- (3) Customers may write the Illinois Commerce Commission at 527 East Capitol Ave., Springfield, IL 62794-9280 or visit the Commission's Web site at [www.icc.state.il.us](http://www.icc.state.il.us) if they wish to file a complaint or have questions about the eligibility process. Illinois Power is always glad to work with customers towards a mutually agreeable resolution of disputes.
- (4) Illinois Power will not release your phone number, usage or billing information to alternative suppliers unless you expressly authorize the release.



For information,  
call the Electric  
Service Act Hotline:  
1-800-840-6682.

# THE ELECTRIC SERVICE ACT:

## Procedures for Obtaining Eligibility for Customer Choice on Oct. 1, 1999, for Non-Residential Customers of Illinois Power

This brochure is intended to provide information regarding how non-residential customers may become eligible for customer choice on Oct. 1, 1999.

## A New Way of Buying and Selling Electricity

Illinois businesses are about to enter a competitive marketplace for electricity under the Electric Service Customer Choice and Rate Relief Act of 1997 (Electric Service Act).

This year, many non-residential customers may have the option of choosing their electric supplier, either Illinois Power or another supplier certified by the Illinois Commerce Commission. While some larger customers automatically may be offered supplier choice in 1999, others must register by June 15, 1999, to be eligible for supplier choice in 1999. The customers who register may also be subject to selection by lottery for supplier choice eligibility later this year.

## Understanding the System

Illinois Power currently provides every aspect of your electric service.

- Supply/Generation. Illinois Power supplies the electricity you now use in your business. Most of that electricity is generated locally by Illinois Power.
- Transmission. Illinois Power owns and maintains the transmission lines and facilities that carry electricity from its power plants into your community for distribution.
- Distribution. Illinois Power owns and maintains the local lines and facilities that deliver electricity directly from transmission lines and facilities into your business.

Under the Electric Service Act, the supply/generation part of your electric service may be separated (or what the electricity industry calls "unbundled") from transmission and distribution. When you become eligible to unbundle your services, it means you are able to choose your supplier/generator, namely, Illinois Power or another authorized supplier.

Under the law, another authorized supplier may be:

- (1) another Illinois electric utility OR
- (2) another provider known in the law as an "Alternative

Retail Electric Supplier" (ARES) that has been certified by the Illinois Commerce Commission.

Regardless of your choice of electric supplier, Illinois Power will continue to deliver your electricity. This means Illinois Power may read your meters, operate and maintain facilities, restore these facilities if outages occur and provide other related delivery services.

## Participating in Supplier Choice

The option to choose an electric supplier will be phased in over the next few years. The largest power users in Illinois Power's service area may be offered supplier choice automatically on Oct. 1, 1999, and will be notified by mail.

Other non-residential customers will have to register and may be subject to a lottery to become eligible to be offered supplier choice Oct. 1, 1999. If they do not register, non-residential customers will be offered supplier choice Dec. 31, 2000. Those who do register and are chosen in a lottery to be offered supplier choice Oct. 1, 1999, will be notified by mail.

Regardless of your category and selection, existing contracts and tariff terms will have to be honored.

## Immediate Choice for Large Electric Customers

Beginning Oct. 1, 1999, you may be able to choose your electric supplier if you are in one of the following two categories of non-residential customers in Illinois Power's service area:

(A) Non-residential customers with a monthly electrical demand of 4 megawatts or higher at a single site.

(B) Non-governmental, non-residential commercial retail customers:

- with 10 or more establishments under common ownership in Illinois Power's service area AND
- whose monthly electrical demand totals 9.5 megawatts or higher for those establishments.

Eligibility on the basis of electrical demand is determined by the average of the six highest monthly maximum

electrical demands in the 12 months ending June 30, 1999. An initial evaluation of eligibility based on electrical demand is determined from data for the eight months ending Feb. 28, 1999. If Illinois Power is able to determine that your company meets the criteria based on these data, you will receive written notification shortly.

If you believe your company meets the common ownership criterion under (B), call the Illinois Power Electric Service Act Hotline at 1-800-840-6682 by May 15, 1999, to identify your 10 or more establishments. Or you may mail the form in this brochure with a list of your multiple facilities (and account numbers) in the postage-paid envelope provided.

Illinois Power will make a final determination of customers in categories (A) and (B) after collecting 12 months of billing data through June 30, 1999. You will receive written notification if you fall into either category.

### Registration for Choice Among Other Non-Residential Customers

Other non-residential retail customers in Illinois Power's service area (medium-sized and small business establishments) must register for and may be subject to selection by lottery to be offered the option of supplier choice beginning Oct. 1, 1999.

The combined electrical sales of the customers selected will be limited to one-third of the electricity used annually by Illinois Power's non-residential customers, excluding those larger customers mentioned above in (A) and (B).

There may be two lotteries to select these customers:

- (1) A common ownership lottery for non-residential customers with more than one establishment under common ownership in Illinois Power's service area.
- (2) A general lottery for businesses with one facility.

If you have registered for supplier choice but are not eligible for or do not ask to participate in a common ownership lottery, your facility will be entered automatically in a general lottery.

## Electric Service Act Supplier Choice Registration and Reply Form

Please answer all questions that apply to your business.

1. \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_No

**I want to register to be eligible to be offered electric supplier choice Oct. 1, 1999.** I understand that my eligibility may ultimately be determined by a lottery. Even if I am selected in a lottery, I am under no obligation to change my electric service in any way. If I do not register for a lottery or am not selected in a lottery, I will be offered electric supplier choice Dec. 31, 2000.

2. \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_No

**I authorize Illinois Power to release my name and address to alternative electric suppliers and others who request this information.**

3. \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_No

**I authorize Illinois Power to release my rate and service classification to alternative electric suppliers and others who request this information.**

4. **My company has \_\_\_\_ site(s).**

- a. \_\_\_\_I want to be considered for automatic supplier choice Oct. 1, 1999, as I believe my non-governmental, non-residential commercial business has total monthly usage of 9.5 megawatts at 10 or more sites under common ownership. Please call me to discuss at \_\_\_\_\_ (office phone).
- b. \_\_\_\_Enter my medium-sized to small business in a common ownership lottery if such a lottery is needed to determine eligibility for supplier choice. I am registering for eligibility and I have more than one site under common ownership. Please call me to discuss at \_\_\_\_\_ (office phone).
- c. \_\_\_\_Please register each individual site in a general lottery if held.

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Company Name\_\_\_\_\_

Account Number ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_

State\_\_\_\_\_ZIP\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

To register, please:

- fax completed form to 1-800-268-6426.
- mail form in the postage-paid envelope or send to Illinois Power, Solutions Center, A-13, P.O. Box 2543, Decatur, IL 62525 **OR**
- call the Illinois Power Electric Service Act Hotline: 1-800-840-6682.

You must register no later than JUNE 15, 1999. Illinois Power is not responsible for misdirected or lost responses.

**Questions? Call the Illinois Power Electric Service Act Hotline: 1-800-840-6682.**



Call the Illinois Power Electric Service Act Hotline at 1-800-840-6682 by May 15, 1999, to identify your "common ownership" establishments. Or you may register for a common ownership lottery by mailing the form in this brochure with a list of your multiple facilities (and account numbers) in the postage-paid envelope provided.

Any lotteries will be conducted by Illinois Power according to procedures approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission. An independent accounting firm will certify that the lotteries comply with Illinois Commerce Commission guidelines.

If your company is registered and selected in either lottery, Illinois Power will send you written notification as soon as possible.

### The Meaning of Supplier Choice

If you are eligible to choose your electric supplier, you have two options.

- (1) You may continue your existing service with Illinois Power in which Illinois Power handles the supply/generation, transmission and distribution of your electricity.
- (2) You may elect one of two delivery service options. As mentioned above, Illinois Power still will transmit and distribute your electricity.
  - (i) You may buy your electricity on an unregulated basis from a supplier approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission.
  - (ii) You may buy your electricity from Illinois Power on a regulated basis at a "Market Value Power Purchase Option" rate that will be determined by the Illinois Commerce Commission at a later date.

If you do exercise supplier choice:

- (1) You may buy your power alone or as a member of a group from an alternative supplier approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission and have Illinois Power deliver the power to your premises.
- (2) You will pay for your delivery service as well as a mandated transition charge, if applicable. The transition

